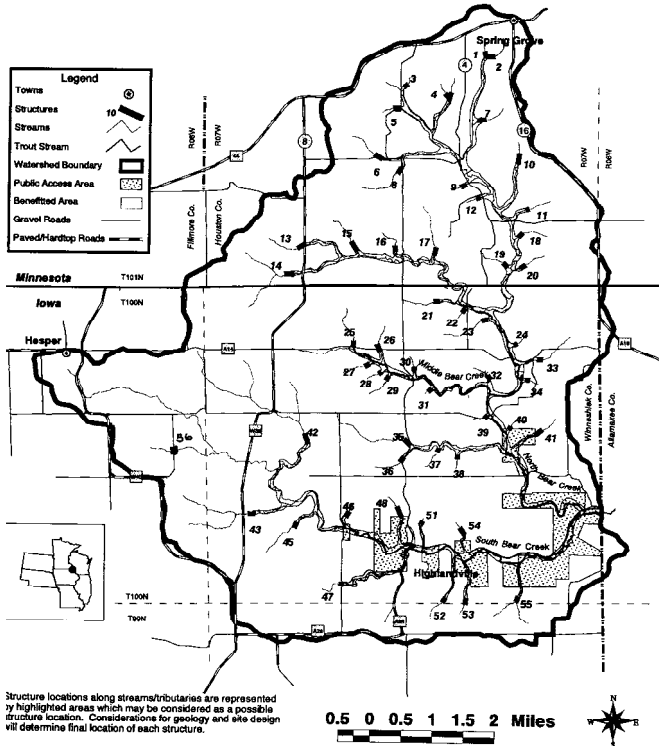


BEAR CREEK WATERSHED PROJECT

Project Map

Allamakee & Winneshiek Counties, Iowa
Fillmore & Houston Counties, Minnesota



The Bear Creek Watershed is located in Allamakee and Winneshiek Counties in Iowa, and Fillmore and Houston Counties in Minnesota. The Project area includes the watersheds of three cold water streams; North, Middle, and South Bear Creeks. The project area totals 34,990 acres, with 24,670 in Winneshiek County.

Historically floodwaters have caused damage to several classes of resources in the Watershed. Reoccurring damage to cropland, pasture, and other agricultural infrastructure, public roads, bridges, and recreational facilities has been a problem in the Project area. Floodwater damage also has a negative impact on the value of the Bear Creeks as trout fisheries, by degrading habitat used for feeding, cover, and trout reproduction.

The intent of the Bear Creek Project is to reduce damages in the Watershed from floodwater and sediment deposits, maintain high quality water in the Bear Creek trout streams, improve recreational opportunities in the area, and protect the watershed from excessive erosion and resource depletion.

Project Objectives

- ◆ Reduce Floodwater damages to public and private lands and infrastructure.
- ◆ Reduce environmental damages to land and water resources in the Watershed.
- ◆ Improve trout fishery to maximize recreational benefits.

Project Action Plan

- ◆ Install 52 floodwater retarding structures to control runoff from 42% of the watershed to reduce flood, sedimentation, and turbidity damages.
- ◆ Install needed land treatment practices to reduce the deterioration of the land resource base, sedimentation, and turbidity.

Upland Treatment Practices

(Cost-share availability and rates subject to funds available)

- ◆ Animal Waste Management Systems
- ◆ Grade Stabilization Structures
- ◆ Pasture & Hayland Management
- ◆ Stream Corridor Protection
- ◆ Terraces
- ◆ Woodland Management

Project Funding Sources

- ◆ Iowa Watershed Protection Fund
- ◆ Iowa Water Protection Fund
- ◆ Iowa DNR Section 319
- ◆ Federal PL83-566

Sponsored by the:

Winneshiek Co. Soil & Water Conservation District
Winneshiek Co. Board of Supervisors
Root River Soil & Water Conservation District
Houston Co. Board of Commissioners
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

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